



## [Open House to link town revitalization, economic development](#)

Submitted by Semele George on Sat, 04/25/2015 - 5:55pm

*VIDEA's Enterprise and Commercial Zone Commission to host Open House at E's Garden Teahouse and Things in Garden Street*

CHARLOTTE AMALIE, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands - April 25, 2015 - To focus on the link between enterprise zone community development and economic development in U.S. Virgin Islands, the Enterprise and Commercial Zone Commission (ECZC), an entity of the U.S. Virgin Islands Economic Development Authority (VIDEA), will host its annual Open House on Wednesday, April 29, 2015 from 8AM to 12PM on St. Thomas during the V.I. Carnival Cultural Fair. This event will be held at the newly-opened E's Garden Teahouse and Things that is located at 2A Commandant Gade (Garden Street), one block north of Cardow's jewelry store on Main Street in the purple and green building next to the Midtown Guesthouse.

The purpose of the Open House is to identify opportunities and strengths of our community using the Territory's unique cultural currency; encourage, motivate and support the business community through the tools that are available; and share information with the community about the V.I. Economic Development Authority and its offerings.

Activities during the Open House will include three feature segments titled "Community Development within the Enterprise Zones", "What's Going on Inside the VIEDA ?", and "Entrepreneurial Activity". Attendees will have the opportunity to receive updates on initiatives for community development within the enterprise zones of the USVI, learn about VIEDA programs and activities, and purchase locally-made products from V.I. small manufacturers.

With its continuous efforts to revitalize distressed and blighted neighborhoods in the USVI, the ECZC will also highlight the significant relationship between community development and economic development in our Territory at this event. With this Open House being held this year at a local small business that is situated within one of the enterprise zones, this event will reflect how community development, economic development and the entrepreneurial spirit of the USVI small business community are interconnected.

The Enterprise and Commercial Zone Commission, one of four entities under the U.S. Virgin Islands Economic Development Authority, assists residents and local small business owners with rehabilitating properties that are located within designated enterprise zones in the Territory. The enterprise zones in the USVI are Frederiksted and Christiansted on St. Croix, Garden Street-UpStreet and Savanne-Downstreet on St. Thomas.

To learn more about the ECZC Open House, contact Tamra B. James at **(340) 714.1700**, ext. 262, or by email at [tjames@usvideda.org](mailto:tjames@usvideda.org) .

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